



Labor Commission

Commissioner: Sherrie Hayashi

Divisions/Programs: Administrative Services
Adjudication
Antidiscrimination and Labor
Boiler & Elevator Safety
Industrial Accidents
Occupational Safety & Health

Full Time Employees: 132

Contact Information: <http://www.laborcommission.utah.gov>
(801) 530-6848

Mission Statement: Achieving safety and fairness in Utah's workplaces



Emerging Issues and Strategic Focus:

As Utahns, we want to provide a high quality of life for ourselves and our families. We value our work ethic. We take pride in our work. We also believe our workplaces should be safe and fair. We want our family members to come home safe and sound from a hard day's work. We know that a healthy employment climate keeps good jobs in Utah, attracts new jobs, and promotes a stronger economy. The Utah Labor Commission plays a pivotal role in assuring the safety and fairness of Utah's workplaces.

The Labor Commission has the primary role in maintaining a proper balance between the needs of Utah employees and the interests of Utah employers. When employment disputes arise, the Labor Commission must resolve them fairly and efficiently.

The challenge facing the Labor Commission is to focus its resources to meet the needs of employers and employees today, while building a foundation for greater workplace safety and fairness tomorrow. To meet that challenge, the Labor Commission will apply a strategic focus to the following issues and trends that are emerging in the workplace.



Economic Development

- Maintain the stability of Utah's workers' compensation system
- Apply technology and information-sharing strategies to identify employers who fail to maintain statutorily- required workers' compensation insurance



Quality of Life

- Assist and encourage employers and employees to take the actions necessary to promote workplace safety.
- Assist injured workers in obtaining the help they are entitled to receive.
- Discharge the responsibility of protecting individuals against employment and housing discrimination in partnership with the federal government through education, investigation, and enforcement.
- Protect the right of individuals to actually receive the wages they have earned, both as a matter of simple fairness and as a matter of economic necessity through education, persuasion and legal action.



Education

- Continue on-going research projects on 1) the effect on emergency response personnel of exposure to methamphetamine-related chemicals and 2) narcotic prescription practices.
- Engage in cooperative safety programs with employers.



Governance:

- Engage stakeholders in the development of new regulations and by frequent review of existing regulations
- Hire talented people and provide the training and equipment necessary for them to do their jobs. The Commission will retain its employees by providing flexibility, professional development and financial recognition.
- Monitor the quality of adjudicative decisions involving workers' compensation, employment and housing discrimination, and occupational safety and health issues, communicate with stakeholders to improve the adjudicative system, and shift staff resources to address the unacceptable backlog of cases waiting for final Commission review.